

TO: Outreach Partners and Interested Parties

FROM: Prescription Advantage

Date: November 1, 2007

BULLETIN

This bulletin is one in a series of routine updates regarding Prescription Advantage. These notices are designed to inform a broad network of outreach partners and other interested parties about Plan updates affecting both current and future Plan members.

Part D Plan Reassignment for Wellcare Members in 2008

In 2008 Wellcare is increasing the monthly premium of its Medicare basic drug plan, WellCare Signature (plan ID# S5967-036), from \$21.20 to \$31.50. With the regional benchmark changing to \$29.17, Prescription Advantage members that currently receive assistance paying their Part D premium from Prescription Advantage and/ or Medicare Extra Help, would be required to pay a portion of the monthly premium.

To prevent members from paying an additional premium, Prescription Advantage is working with WellCare to enroll these members in the WellCare Classic basic drug plan (plan ID# S5967-139) effective January 1, 2008. With this plan, members will not have an increase in their monthly premium amount. The formulary will not be affected by this change.

<u>Please note:</u> Members with subsidized premiums are in Prescription Advantage member ship categories S0 – S3.

The attached letter will be mailed later this week to members affected by this change.



November 2007

Dear Prescription Advantage Member:

This is important information about your prescription drug coverage and its costs. WellCare may h ave recently notified you of changes in its drug plans for the year 2008. Prescription Advantage wants you to know that there is **new information about a change to your plan** that will affect the assistance you receive paying your monthly plan premiums.

You currently receive assistance with your monthly Medicare drug plan premium from Prescription Advantage and/or Medicare Extra Help. However, as of January 1, 2008, the monthly premium for your current Medicare basic drug plan, WellCare Signature (plan ID# S5967-036), will increase to an amount greater than this assistance provides. This means that if you remain in this plan, you will be required to pay a greater portion of your Medicare drug plan premium.

However, Prescription Advantage is working with WellCare to enroll you instead in the WellCare Classic basic drug plan (plan ID# S5967-139) effective January 1, 2008. Prescription Advantage used its legal authority, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to make this change, in order to prevent our members from paying an additional premium. If you remain in this plan, you will not have an increase in your monthly premium amount. The list of prescription drugs covered by your plan will not be affected by this change.

If this is the option you want, you do not need to take any further action to secure your 2008 enrollment. If you wish to change your Medicare Part D drug plan for 2008, Medicare will have an Open Enrollment from November 15, 2007 through December 31, 2007, and you may change plans at that time. In early November, Prescription Advantage will send you information about all of your 2008 plan options.

Please keep in mind that if you select a plan with a premium that is more than the amount Prescription Advantage covers, you will be required to pay a portion of the monthly premium.

If you have any questions regarding your benefits or if you believe this information is not correct, please contact Prescription Advantage Customer Service at the number listed below.

If you need help selecting a Medicare drug plan, please contact the following organizations for assistance:

❖ <u>SHINE</u> - (Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders) − Individual health insurance counseling available to all Medicare beneficiaries.

1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), press 2 or TTY (toll free) 1-800-872-0166 www.mass.gov/elders

❖ <u>MassMedLine</u> - A resource for prescription drug information and assistance. Pharmacists are available to assist you.

1-866-633-1617_(TTY/TDD users should ask the operator to call the MassMedLine toll-free number).

www.massmedline.com

❖ Medicare - For general assistance with the Medicare Part D benefits and the Medicare drug plans.

Please look for the Medicare and You handbook that was sent to you in October. Contact Medicare if you did not receive it.

1-800-MEDICARE

TTY (toll free) 1-877-486-2048

www.medicare.gov

For more information regarding your Prescription Advantage benefits, please contact Presc ription Advantage Customer Service at 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636) or TTY (toll free) for the deaf and hard of hearing at 1-877-610-0241.

Sincerely, Prescription Advantage